Penalty on institutions exploiting students

1411. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has directed the University Grants Commission (UGC) to prepare a fresh draft to penalize the institutions that exploit the students;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether such institutions would be banned; and

(d) if so, by when and what other steps Government proposes to take against such institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The University Grants Commission (UGC) constituted an Expert Committee in August 2007 under the Chairmanship of Prof. B. S. Sonde to formulate, regulations with regard to admission and fee for self-financing private professional institutions, including 'deemed-to-be universities.' The report of the Committee is yet to be accepted by the Commission.

A public appeal has also been issued by the Ministry of Human Resource Development on 17th June, 2008 in the print media cautioning parents/ guardians and students that while seeking admission in higher educational institutions, they should satisfy themselves that such institutions are recognized under the relevant laws and are of quality and repute. Even in the case of recognized institutions and universities, parents and students have been advised to satisfy that the courses for which admissions are being offered/ advertised are duly recognized and further that the campuses to which admissions are being offered are also recognized campuses of such institutions and universities. In case of any doubt, they have been advised to obtain information directly from the statutory bodies such as the UGC or AICTE. These statutory authorities have also been directed to launch effective campaigns against institutions which are unrecognized and unauthorized and to take appropriate panel action under law. An appeal has also been made to the media to refuse publishing of misleading advertisement even if it meant some loss of advertising revenue to them.

Opening of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas

1412. SHRI B.J. PANDA:

MS. MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of opening of co-educational residential Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs), primarily meant for the children in rural areas, which offer free boarding and lodging, free uniforms/textbooks, etc.;

(b) how many such schools have been sanctioned in the country, till date, and out of these how many have started functioning;

(c) what is the status of opening of such schools in poverty-stricken regions of Jharkhand and Orissa; and

(d) what is the time-frame within which all the schools, so sanctioned, would be made functional?